

## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

## § 953.123

### § 953.79 Agents.

The Secretary may, by designation in writing, name any person, including any officer or employee of the Government, or name any bureau or division in the United States Department of Agriculture, to act as his agent or representative in connection with any of the provisions of this subpart.

### § 953.80 Derogation.

Nothing contained in this subpart is, or shall be construed to be, in derogation or in modification of the rights of the Secretary or of the United States to exercise any powers granted by the act or otherwise, or in accordance with such powers, to act in the premises whenever such action is deemed advisable.

### § 953.81 Personal liability.

No member or alternate of the committee, nor any employee or agent thereof, shall be held personally responsible, either individually or jointly with others, in any way whatsoever to any handler or to any person for errors in judgment, mistakes, or other acts, either of commission or omission, as such member, alternate, or employee, except for acts of dishonesty.

### § 953.82 Separability.

If any provision of this subpart is declared invalid, or the applicability thereof to any person, circumstance, or thing is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this subpart, or the applicability thereof to any other person, circumstance, or thing shall not be affected thereby.

### § 953.83 Amendments.

Amendments to this subpart may be proposed from time to time by the committee or by the Secretary.

## Subpart—Rules and Regulations

### GENERAL

### § 953.100 General.

(a) *Marketing agreement* means Marketing Agreement No. 104.

(b) *Order* means Order No. 953 (§§ 953.1 through 953.83).

(c) All other terms shall have the same meaning as when used in the marketing agreement and order.

### CHANGE IN DATE FOR COMPLETING NOMINATIONS, TERM OF OFFICE, AND FISCAL PERIOD

### § 953.120 Nomination date.

The names of committee nominees shall be supplied to the Secretary in such manner and form as he may prescribe, pursuant to § 953.18, not later than January 31 of each year.

[34 FR 17328, Oct. 27, 1969]

### § 953.121 Term of office.

The term of office, pursuant to § 953.16, which began November 1, 1968, shall end March 31, 1970. Thereafter, each term of office shall begin April 1 of each year and end March 31 of the following year, both dates inclusive.

[34 FR 17828, Oct. 27, 1969]

### § 953.122 Fiscal period.

The fiscal period, pursuant to § 953.9, which began on April 1, 1976, shall end on May 31, 1977. Thereafter, each fiscal period shall begin on June 1 of each year and end on May 31 of the following year, both dates inclusive.

[41 FR 42184, Sept. 27, 1976]

### § 953.123 Reestablishment of districts and reapportionment of committee membership.

(a) Pursuant to § 953.12: (1) The counties of James City and Nansemond and the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach (currently District No. 3) are reestablished as a part of District No. 2; (2) the membership of the Southeastern Potato Committee shall be apportioned among the districts of the production are so as to provide the following representation: Two producer members and one handler member from each of Districts No. 1, 4, and 5; one producer member and two handler members from District No. 2. The respective alternates shall be selected on the same basis of representation as the members.

(b) Terms used in this section have the same meaning as when used in the

## § 953.253

## 7 CFR Ch. IX (1–1–08 Edition)

said marketing agreement and this part.

[37 FR 927, Jan. 21, 1972]

### Subpart—Assessment Rates

#### § 953.253 Assessment rate.

On and after June 1, 1998, an assessment rate of \$0.01 per hundredweight is established for Southeastern States potatoes.

[63 FR 32968, June 17, 1998]

### Subpart—Handling Regulations

#### § 953.322 Handling regulation.

During the period beginning June 5 and ending July 31 each season, no person shall ship any lot of potatoes produced in the production area unless such potatoes meet the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section or unless such potatoes are handled in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) or (e) of this section.

(a) *Minimum grade and size requirements.* All round white varieties of potatoes shall be U.S. No. 2 or better grade, 1½ inches (38.1 mm) minimum diameter.

(b) *Inspection.* Except as provided in paragraphs (c) and (e), no handler shall ship any round white potatoes unless an appropriate inspection certificate covering them has been issued by the Federal-State Inspection Service and the certificate is valid at the time of shipment.

(c) *Special purpose shipments.* The grade, size, and inspection requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply to potatoes shipped for canning, freezing, “other processing” as hereinafter defined, livestock feed, charity or to shipments of round red, long white or Russet variety potatoes. However, the handler of any potatoes shipped for such special purposes shall comply with the safeguard requirements of paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Safeguards.* Each handler making shipments of potatoes for canning, freezing, “other processing,” livestock feed or charity, or making shipments of round red, long white or Russet variety potatoes in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section shall:

(1) Notify the committee of the handler’s intent to ship potatoes pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section by applying forms furnished by the committee for a Certificate of Privilege applicable to such special purpose shipments.

(2) Obtain an approved Certificate of Privilege;

(3) Prepare on forms furnished by the committee a special purpose shipment report for each such individual shipment; and

(4) Forward copies of such special purpose shipment report to the committee office and to the receiver with instructions to sign and return a copy to the committee’s office. Failure of the handler or receiver to report such shipments by promptly signing and returning the applicable special purpose shipment report to the committee office shall be cause for suspension of such handler’s Certificate of Privilege applicable to such special purpose shipments.

(e) *Minimum quantity exemption.* Each handler may ship up to, but not to exceed five hundredweight of potatoes any day without regard to the inspection and assessment requirements of this part, but this exception shall not apply to any portion of a shipment that exceeds five hundredweight of potatoes.

(f) *Definitions.* The term *U.S. No. 2* shall have the same meaning as when used in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes as amended (7 CFR 2851.1540–2851.1566), including the tolerances set forth in it. The term *other processing* has the same meaning as the term appearing in the act and includes, but is not restricted to, potatoes for dehydration, chips, shoestrings, starch, and flour. It includes only that preparation of potatoes for market which involves the application of heat or cold to such an extent that the natural form or stability of the commodity undergoes a substantial change. The act of peeling, cooling, slicing, dicing, or applying material to prevent oxidation does not constitute “other processing.” All other terms used in this section shall have the same meaning as when used in Marketing Agreement No. 104 and this part, both as amended.